GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1936
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2016
Availbility of Drinking Water to Tribal population
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Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 75 per cent of India"s tribal population defecates in the open and 33 per cent does not have access to safe source of drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the factual data in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to improve the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) and (b) As per Census 2011, 75 % total and 82.35 % Rural and 26.18% Urban Schedule Tribes (ST) households defecate in open.

In respect of rural drinking water supply, the mandate of this Ministry is to provide drinking water supply to the rural population only. As per the information entered by the States / UTs into this Ministry's online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), as on 31.03.2016 there are 932.53 lakh rural population in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) concentrated habitations. Out of this 723.64 lakh population (which is 77.60%) are covered with the provision of 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) of safe drinking water, 177.86 lakh population (which is 19.07%) are covered with less than 40 lpcd of safe drinking water and only 30.99 lakh tribal population (which is 3.32%) do not have access to safe drinking water .

(c) The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) has been launched on 2nd October, 2014, which aims at attaining Swachh Bharat by 2nd October 2019. Under this programme, the States are provided technical and financial guidance to accelerate rural sanitation coverage, including reduction in Open Defecation and promotion of solid and liquid waste management. Under SBM(G), incentive of Rs. 12000 are being provided to ST Households for construction of Individual household latrines. The focus of the scheme is on behaviour change and usage of toilets. A baseline survey was conducted in 2012-13 by the States, as per which, the rural sanitation coverage in respect of STs was 30.2%. This has increased to 47.32% as on 31.03.2016.

Rural water supply is a State subject. This Ministry supplements the efforts of the States to provide drinking water supply including through piped drinking water supply schemes by providing technical and financial assistance to the States under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in rural areas of the country. The State Governments are vested with powers to select, plan and implement drinking water supply schemes under the NRDWP. In the criteria of allocation of funds to States under NRDWP, 10% weightage has been given to rural SC and ST population of States. Besides, this Ministry has made a dedicated provision of 10% of the annual allocation under NRDWP for provision of safe drinking water in the ST concentrated habitations.